

Doc 4-01.4 The Glass Bottom Boat

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Doris Day Silly as a Spy

By Sam Lesner

"The Glass Bottom Boat" starts out simply enough, with Doris Day as a wholesome young widow who works as a guide in a spacecraft laboratory and helps her pappy, Arthur Godfrey, operator of a glass bottom boat for tourists off Catalina Island.

Doris adds a bit of glamor to the tourist trade by swimming beneath the boat in a mermaid costume.

But if you have any notion that the film swims along in this vein, forget it. The spy spoof thing has infected Miss Day, too, and a sillier Mata Hari hasn't been seen. Miss Day just doesn't make the scene as a spy, even though she is innocent of any espionage activity here.

It turns out that she gets involved with a bunch of nitwit CIA agents, a pompous Army general, and a foolish scientist who has invented a



Arthur Godfrey and Elisabeth Fraser in "The Glass Bottom Boat."

revolutionary new space chamber.

THE SCIENTIST, Rod Taylor also has a fabulous tonic with so many electronic gadgets that Doris can whip up a banana cream cake—her prize-winning recipe—in three minutes in his fantastic kitchen.

Unfortunately, instead of sticking to the tried and true formula of romantic divertissement in which Miss Day has been so effective, producers Martin Melcher and Everett Freeman went overboard on the spy foolishness.

To its small credit at least it sticks to slapstick comedy, rather than following the trend for the vicious black humor of today's spy thrillers.

But of glass bottom boats and the marine life adventure the film's title suggests, you will see virtually nothing.

GODFREY, making his motion picture debut, is pleasantly himself in a few short scenes, while Elisabeth Fraser, as his companion, wordlessly tries to stay in the picture by making faces in the background.

Miss Day over-reacts to the contrived situations and Taylor plays the cool scientist like a playboy. It's only fair to report that many Sunday night patrons laughed all the way through this juvenile comedy.

'3 on a Couch'

Jerry Lewis makes a good case in his new comedy, "3 on

a Couch," for his theory that "psychiatrists need people more than people need psychiatrists."

The multi-talented Mr. Lewis is produced and directed this film and gave himself four distinctive roles, including a female impersonation. In the movie, Jerry turns the tables on his fiancée, a psychiatrist who is so wrapped up in her own importance she can't see the people for their problems.

The lady won't marry her attentive fiancé until she resolves the problems of three patients, a trio of attractive young women who have acquired man-hating neuroses.

Psychiatrically, this comedy is on pretty thin ice, but Jerry keeps things moving so sprightly, and keeps his various characterizations so neatly packaged that the broad spectrum of his comedic talent in this film should win him some fans he hasn't had before.

The straight-faced Jerry Lewis, as a serious-minded artist who wins a trip to Paris for two and wants to make it a honeymoon trip, has enormous appeal.

HOW HE GETS the three patients off the couch in time to get his fiancée aboard the ship sailing for France, is the hectic plot of the comedy.

It's all too obvious and predictable, but Lewis has a great sense of timing. Also, he's growing up, cinematically.

Janet Leigh as the psychiatrist-fiancée is crisp, feminine and appealing. Also, Buddy Lester, as an alcoholic playboy who staggers in and out of the psychiatrist's office, we thought, added a droll bit of modern society with his pantomime role.

"THE GLASS BOTTOM BOAT"
Produced by Martin Melcher and Everett Freeman, directed by Frank Tashlin from a screenplay by Freeman, photographed by Leon Shamroy, presented at the Esquire Theater.

THE CAST

Jennifer Nelson	Doris Day
Bruce Tometon	Rod Taylor
Axel Nordstrom	Arthur Godfrey
Ralph Goodwin	John McGiver
Homer Clapps	Paul Lynde
Gen. Wallace Bleeker	Edw. Andrews
Edgar Hill	Eric Fleming
Julius Prifter	Dom De Luise
Zack Molloy	Oick Martin
Nina Bailey	Elisabeth Fraser
Mr. Fenimore	George Tobias
Mrs. Fenimore	Alice Pearce
Anna Miller	Ellen Corby
Donna	Dee J. Thompson